



Peace United Church of Christ
Rev. Eric Kirkegaard
October 22, 2023
Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

Our mission: Love like Jesus...

Welcome all, love all, grow in faith together, and seek justice for all.

“Just as I have loved you, you should love each other.” – John 13:34

We, the members of Peace United Church of Christ, believe that we are called to be a congregation of grace and welcome to all of God’s children:

- to celebrate every person as a child of God, created in God’s image.
- to love all as God has first loved us.
- to acknowledge the presence of, and offer healing to the wounds of oppression, injustice, prejudice, and hate, and to stand with those who are left out.

Following Christ’s example, we welcome and include everyone in all aspects of life, leadership, and ministry of the church. We affirm persons of all races, nationalities, sexual orientations, gender identities, family structures, physical or mental abilities, political stances, faith backgrounds and socio-economic status.

In the way of Jesus, we stand against acts of hate and violence in all their forms.

Therefore, we declare ourselves to be an Open and Affirming Congregation, where an extravagant welcome and grace are extended to all, and each person’s gifts are celebrated, welcomed, nurtured, and blessed, that all may be one. Amen.

Approved by Peace Church 10/20/2019

Our vision: “Peace Church exists to feed souls, grow in God’s extravagant love and together serve all of God’s children and creation.”

Welcome visitors! Please take a moment to complete a Guest Information card in the pew racks in front of you. Please place the completed card in the offering plate.

Prayer Requests - As we gather together as one family in Jesus Christ, we covenant to hold one another’s joys and concerns. Please share your prayers with us by writing them on the “Prayer Request” slip found in the pew in front of you and return them to the usher or place them in the offering plate. Thank you.

Contact Peace Church: Peace UCC - P. O. Box 433, Kewaskum, WI 53040
Pastor Eric cell: 262-707-0758 - pastor@peace-ucc.org
Church Office: Robin Mock, 262-626-4011 - office@peace-ucc.org
On the web @ www.peace-ucc.org, Peace on Facebook, YouTube at: Peace UCC Kewaskum

WORSHIP SERVICE

PRELUDE "I Will Arise and Go to Jesus" Carter

GREETINGS - A TIME OF CENTERING

HYMN 48 "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

BEING GATHERED TO GOD

One: May the peace and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

One: Gather us in your presence O Lord and show us whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just.

All: Stir our hearts again, O Lord, that we may be opened to your wonder.

Precious Lord, gather us into your spirit of worship.

CONFESSING AND RECEIVING FORGIVENESS

One: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

All: But if we confess our brokenness, God who is faithful and just, will forgive us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

One: Let us confess before our God and one another.

All: Gracious Lord, we gather as a people longing for your wisdom and transformative spirit. We desire to know you as a friend who reaches out to us with tender care and offers us a new way forward. Help us to lay down our barriers; free us from our stubbornness and forgive us for our sinfulness. We have broken our lives and scattered the pieces; we have failed to love you, our neighbors and ourselves as you would have us do. Come Lord, hear our prayers and gather us in your mercy. We pray: "Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen."

One: O God, we proclaim You again as Lord of our lives.
Shape us with your will, write on our hearts what is
good and acceptable and perfect in your sight.
The mercy and the love of God are endless.
Friends, believe the good news of the gospel, trust
in God's abundant promise:

All: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

A Response Of Hallelujah "Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le,lu-ja"

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine" Wilson

LESSON Exodus 33:12-23 (page 67)

The Children's Time – As the children come forward, please
sing Hymn 437 "Jesus Loves Me" vs. 1

HYMN 521 "Abide with Me"

LESSON 1 Thessalonians 1 :1-10 (page 899)

GOSPEL Matthew 22:15-22 (page 756)

SERMON

SPECIAL MUSIC "Grace Alone" Brown & Nelson

THE DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below:
Praise God for all that love has done:
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATON

**God of abundant love, with thanksgiving we
return a portion of our gifts to you. God, we
offer ourselves, our labors, our love, all that
we are, to you and to your world. Bless our
offerings and guide us in your service. Amen**

PASTORAL PRAYER – SILENT PRAYER

BENEDICTION

One: Go in peace, serve the Lord!

All: We go to love and to serve, for we are the Church! Alleluia and Amen.

HYMN 716 "God Be with You"

POSTLUDE

Serving Today: Musicians: Sherry McElhatton, Mia Dornacker; Video: David Dorn

Today's Altar Flowers from the Kedroske family in memory of Eileen Ramthun.

Lectionary for October 29 - Deuteronomy 34:1-12 and Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17 • Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18 and Psalm 1 • 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 • Matthew 22:34-46

Happy Birthday Oct 22 - 28

Oct 24 Janine Lemke, Jared Polzin, Alec Taylor

Oct 26 Brad Preder

Oct 27 Kelly Schreffler

Oct 28 Roger Lindgren, David McIntosh

Happy Anniversary Oct 22-28

Oct 23 Eric & Laura Kirkegaard (30)

Oct 24 Amanda & Jon Herbst (14)

Oct 26 Jori & Steve Schmeling (38)

Calendar for the Week of October 22

10/22 Mitten Collection

10/24 Lectionary 10 am

10/25 XYZ Cards

10/26 Grief Group 1 pm, Living the Question 10 am

Living the Questions 2.0 - is Thursday Morning study on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month from 10:00-11:30 – When we have done this study in the past it has felt like it offered members in the class an introductory taste of the riches of a seminary education. This is an amazing opportunity to take your faith, your relationship to scripture, God, and the Church to a new level. Vikar Jakob will be the primary leader for this class.

Mitten Ministry News: We are collecting mittens for those in need TODAY! We will have the dedication/blessing on October 29th, and plan to distribute to the schools and pantries the first week of November. If you need yarn, stop by the church to pick some up! If you would like to learn how to knit, I would love to hear from you - the more the merrier! You can reach me (Heidi Rodenkirch) at 920-602-1184.

Annual Congregational Meeting October 29, 2023



Our annual meeting will take place immediately following the 9:30 service.

Thank You! Commitment Sunday, November 12, gives us the chance to thank God for all the incredible gifts God's given to us. Commitment Sunday worship gives us the chance to:

- respond gratefully to God's love by bringing our financial commitments to church and offering them to God;
- rejoice in the ways we've seen God at work in and through the life of Peace Church, its members and friends;
- enjoy a time of fellowship, cake and other treats in Fellowship Hall following worship.

Won't you also join us in expressing prayers of gratitude and thanks to God for Peace Church, Sunday, November 5, as we celebrate the 125th Anniversary of Peace UCC's founding. That day, you'll find paper tree leaves at the ends of each pew on which you can write words to complete the sentence, "We give thanks to God for

_____." Your words of gratitude and thanksgiving will become a part of a "tree" that will be in the sanctuary on Commitment Sunday as we celebrate Christ's church, all God has given, and all God will continue to give, to us.



MOWA Event: The Women@Peace are arranging a trip to the Museum of Wisconsin Art (MOWA) on Friday, Nov. 3rd. Carpooling will happen at Peace Church, leaving the parking lot at 8:15 am. Breakfast at The Hub at 8:30 am. Or meet us at MOWA at 9:30 am. If you are a member of MOWA, you can take up to 5 people with you for free, otherwise cost is \$15.00. Sign-up clipboards are available in both lobbies at church or call the office (262-626-4011) to sign-up.

Prayers for Healing:

To Jaden Rhoads, who is recovering after another surgery following his motorcycle accident in July.

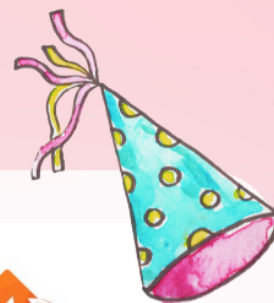
To Stan Wendland, brother-in-law to Karen & John Grundahl, as he faces continued new chemo treatments.

To Kenady Kivell, who is recovering from hip surgery at Children's Hospital.

To Jeanne Wood, who is in rehab at Cedar Community.

Prayers of Comfort:

To the family and friends of Rev. Bill Wiederanders, who passed away on Sunday, October 15, 2023. Funeral service will be held at Peace Church on Friday, October 27th with visitation from 11:00 am – 12:45 pm. Funeral service for Rev. Bill will be held at 1:00 pm followed by coffee and dessert in Fellowship Hall. Burial will take place at St. Mary's Cemetery in West Bend.



PEACE UCC

125 Years



Peace United Church of Christ
Anniversary CELEBRATION

Sunday, November 5th, 2023
Peace Church - Fellowship Hall

Serving 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Pulled Pork & Chicken
Cheesy Hashbrown Casserole, Salad, Dessert & Beverage
Fellowship & Special Map Activity

Ticket Price - TBD

Please note that there will be only ONE service that day at 9:30 a.m.

